

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 2 and 3 without prejudice. Kindly amend claims 1 and 4, and add new claims 5 and 6 as follows.

The present listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A thin-walled lightweight cooled turbine blade comprising:

a front blade portion-(10a) constituting a front portion of the blade-(10);;

a rear blade portion-(10b) constituting a rear portion of the blade;; and

a middle blade portion-(10c) located between the front blade portion and the rear blade portion and constituting an intermediate portion of the blade-(10), wherein

the front blade portion is(10a) comprised of front cooling air passages-(12a) that introduced cooling air into the interior thereof and front film cooling holes-(7a) for blowing out the cooling air from the front cooling air passages-(12a) to back and belly sides of the blade;;

the middle blade portion is(10c) being a solid structure;;

the belly side of the middle blade portion-(10c) forms a recess portion towards the back side of the middle blade portionthereof;; and

high-temperature gas flowing on the belly side of the blade branches once into two flows to the rear edge portion and along the belly side, and these branched high-temperature

gas flows are merged again at the rear edge portion, thereby forming a separation region-(s).

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The thin-walled lightweight cooled turbine blade specified in Claim 52, wherein

the middle blade portion-(10c) comprises communication holes-(8) for supplying part of the cooling air blown out from the front film cooling holes-(7a), from the belly side of the blade-(10) to the back side thereof.

5. (NEW) A thin-walled lightweight cooled turbine blade comprising:

a front blade portion constituting a front portion of the blade;

a rear blade portion constituting a rear portion of the blade; and

a middle blade portion located between the front blade portion and the rear blade portion and constituting an intermediate portion of the blade, wherein

the front blade portion is comprised of front cooling air passages that introduce cooling air into the interior thereof and front film cooling holes for blowing out the cooling air from the front cooling air passages to back and belly sides of the blade;

the middle blade portion is a solid structure;

the belly side of the middle blade portion forms a recess portion towards the back side thereof;

the rear blade portion comprises in the interior thereof rear cooling air passages and

rear film cooling holes for blowing out the cooling air from the rear cooling air passages to the back and belly sides of the blade; and

high-temperature gas flowing on the belly side of the blade branches once into two flows to the rear edge portion and along the belly side, and these branched high-temperature gas flows are merged again at the rear edge portion, thereby forming a separation region.

6. (NEW) A thin-walled lightweight cooled turbine blade comprising:

a front blade portion constituting a front portion of the blade;

a rear blade portion constituting a rear portion of the blade; and

a middle blade portion located between the front blade portion and the rear blade portion and constituting an intermediate portion of the blade, wherein

the front blade portion is comprised of front cooling air passages that introduce cooling air into the interior thereof, and front film cooling holes for blowing out the cooling air from the front cooling air passages to back and belly sides of the blade;

the middle blade portion is a solid structure;

the belly side of the middle blade portion forms a recess portion towards the back side thereof, wherein the middle blade portion and the rear blade portion comprise communication holes communicating between the belly side and the back side of the blade that supplies a part of the cooling air from the belly side to the back side thereof; and

high-temperature gas flowing on the belly side of the blade branches once into two flows to the rear edge portion and along the belly side, and these branched high-temperature gas flows are merged again at the rear edge portion, thereby forming a separation region.